

CaBIG-DSIC Liaison Reports 5/27/2004

Integrative Cancer Research Workspace (ICR): Terry Braun (Iowa – Holden)

The ICR Workspace has broken into Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Terry presented the highlights of the SIG meetings as reported during the group's last teleconference:

- The Translational Research SIG will focus on the tools and technology necessary to support the integration of laboratory and clinical data.
- The Pathways SIG has an urgent need for tools for analyzing pathway data.
- The Microarray Repositories SIG will focus on tools and systems needed to manage microarray data. The NCICB's first release of caArray software will be available in mid-September; on-line demos are currently being offered.
- The Gene Annotation SIG focuses on data sources required by developers for gene annotation. The key issues for this group is the problem of unstable gene identifiers.
- The Computational Genomics SIG has been combined with the Gene Annotation SIG.
- The Proteomics SIG will address the development of tools, data and technologies relevant to the manipulation of proteomics data.
- The Data Analysis and Statistical Methods SIG will focus on the tools and systems that pertain to sophisticated data analysis.

Clinical Trials (CT) Workspace: Don Connelly (Minnesota)

The CT Workspace discussed contract issues during its most recent teleconference. They are developing a fact sheet that is posted in draft form on the internal caBIG website. Reception to the fact sheet thus far has been positive. The following SIGs have been created:

- Adverse event reporting
- Laboratory interfaces
- Financial conflicts of interest and regulatory reporting
- Protocol development

New candidates for SIGs are being developed. Intellectual capital issues are not yet a focus for the CT Workspace.

Tissue Banks and Pathology Tools (TBPT) Workspace: Mark Watson (Wash. U. - Siteman)

The TBPT Workspace has developed a detailed survey to gather all relevant information about systems available for the creation of a virtual tissue bank/repository. The survey has a section on data sharing, which includes material transfer agreements, the sharing of specimens and specimen data, and distribution to commercial entities. The survey has been distributed to TBPT Workspace members with a one-week turnaround time. Afterwards, the survey will be sent to all caBIG participants.